



Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management

Conservation Practice Job Sheet

ID- 644 JS- 18

Natural Resources Conservation Service, Idaho

November 2007



Photo courtesy of NRCS

Definition

Retaining, developing or managing wetland habitat for wetland wildlife.

Purpose

To maintain, develop or improve wetland habitat for shorebirds, fur-bearers or other wetland dependent or associated flora and fauna.

Where Practice Applies

On or adjacent to wetlands, rivers, lakes and other water bodies where wetland associated wildlife habitat can be managed. This practice applies to natural wetlands and/or water bodies as well as wetlands that may have been previously restored (657), enhanced (659) and created (658).

Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management

This practice is normally accomplished through the installation of a variety of common conservation practices in a resource management system. Practices could include tree and shrub establishment, conservation cover, dikes, water control structures, riparian forest buffers, prescribed grazing, fencing or use exclusion. To evaluate the existing and future (after project) habitat conditions, complete Biology Technical Note 19. A habitat value of 50% (0.5) of habitat potential or greater is needed to meet minimum wildlife habitat quality criteria.

Habitat Elements

The following habitat elements will be considered when assessing wildlife habitat. Not all may apply to every habitat type.

1. Food
 - a. Type
 - b. Amount
2. Cover
 - a. Type
 - b. Amount
3. Water
 - a. Quality
 - b. Quantity
 - c. Accessibility
 - d. Seasonal availability
4. Interspersion and distance to
 - a. Crops
 - b. Grasses and/or legumes
 - c. Shrubs
 - d. Trees
 - e. Water
 - f. Openings
5. Migration
 - a. Routes
 - b. Season of use
 - c. Corridors

Development and Management of Wildlife Habitat

Address habitat elements that are weak or missing for the desired individual or guild of wildlife species or landuse being planned.

Specifications

Site-specific requirements are listed on the specification sheet. Additional provisions are entered on the conservation plan map. Specifications are prepared in accordance with the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide. Refer to practice standard Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management (644).

Operation and Maintenance

Evaluate habitat conditions on a regular basis in order to adapt the conservation plan and schedule of implementation. Annually inspect and repair structural or vegetative components of this practice.

Certification

I certify that I have reviewed and understand the minimum requirements of the Conservation Practice Standard 644, Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management, and agree to apply this practice in accordance with a Specification that will be developed prior to the scheduled practice application in the Conservation Plan and/or Program Contract.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Conservationist: _____

Date: _____

